

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
REQUEST FOR FILING APPLICATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.53(b)
WITHOUT FILING FEE AND/OR WITHOUT EXECUTED INVENTOR'S DECLARATION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Atty. Dkt. 1638-165

Date: June 26, 2001

Sir:

This is a request for filing a new PATENT APPLICATION under Rule 53(b) entitled:
NETWORK ARCHITECTURE-BASED DESIGN-TO-ORDER SYSTEM AND METHOD
without a filing fee and/or without an executed inventor's oath/declaration.

This application is made by the below identified inventor(s). Attached hereto are the following papers:

☐ Newly executed Declaration, ☐ Copy of Declaration from prior application, ☒ Abstract

35 pages of specification and claims (including 11 numbered claims), and

19 sheets of accompanying drawing/s.

☐ Record the attached assignment and return to the undersigned.

☐ Attached is a Power of Attorney.

☐ Priority is hereby claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 119 based on the following foreign applications:

Application Number	Country	Day/Month/Year Filed
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☐ , respectively, the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this application..

☐ Certified copy(ies) of foreign application(s) is/are attached.

☐ Certified copy(ies) filed on _____ in prior appln. no. _____ filed _____

☒ Please amend the specification by inserting the following paragraph before the first line: --This application claims the benefit of Provisional Application No. 60/214,260, filed June 26, 2000, the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this application.--

☐ Please amend the specification by inserting the following paragraph before the first line: --This application is a ☐ continuation/☐ division/☐ continuation-in-part of Application No. _____, filed _____, the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this application.--

☐ Petition filed in prior application to extend its life to insure co-pendency.

☐ The prior application is assigned to _____

☐ It is hereby requested that the Examiner consider the art cited in the above parent application(s) by applicant and/or the Examiner for the reasons stated therein. A listing of that art is attached, but pursuant to Rule 98(d) copies are not required.

☐ Applicant claims "small entity" status. ☐ "Small entity" statement attached.

☐ Please enter the attached and/or below preliminary amendment **prior** to calculation of filing fee:

☐ Also attached: ☐ Information Disclosure Statement; ☐ Non-Publication Request; ☐ Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission; ☐ Statement deleting Inventor(s) named in prior application; ☐ Other:

1.	Inventor:	Tao-Yag	HAN	United States
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☐ **See attached sheet(s) for additional inventor(s) information!!**

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Signature: _____

JC872 U.S. PTO
09/888372
06/26/01

NETWORK ARCHITECTURE-BASED DESIGN-TO-ORDER SYSTEM AND METHOD

BACKGROUND

A portion of the disclosure of this patent document contains material which is
5 subject to copyright protection. The copyright owner has no objection to the facsimile reproduction by anyone of the patent document or the patent disclosure, as it appears in the Patent and Trademark Office files or records, but otherwise reserves all copyright rights whatsoever.

This application claims the priority and benefit of United States Provisional
10 Patent Application Serial Number 60/214,260, filed June 26, 2000, which is incorporated herein by reference. This applications is related to United States Patent Application Serial Number 09/603,616, filed June 26, 2000, entitled "NETWORK DISTRIBUTED DESIGN DATA EXCHANGE ARCHITECTURE AND SERVICES", which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

1. FIELD OF THE INVENTION

15 The present invention pertains to the computer aided design of products, and particularly to a network-based product design server system which facilitates collaboration of many participants throughout the lifecycle of product generation.

2. RELATED ART AND OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

20 New products have traditionally been designed using a fairly sequential product design approach. Historically the product design approach typically has involved a sequence of relatively consecutive steps, such as steps S1 - S5 illustrated in Fig. 1. A first step (step S1) involved conceptual design of the product, which was followed by a detailed design step (step S2). After the detailed design, a prototype of the product was